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1930

CENTENNIAL YEAR

1930

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THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

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"Salvation cannot come without revelation; it is in vain for anyone to minister without it. No man is a minister of Jesus Christ without being a prophet. No man can be a minister of Jesus Christ except he has the testimony of Jesus; and this is the spirit of prophecy."—JOSEPH SMITH.

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REVELATION FROM GOD IS TRUE KNOWLEDGE*

JOHN TAYLOR

THIRD PRESIDENT OF THE CHURCH

WE ARE gathered together here as a peculiar people; we differ in almost every respect from the world of mankind with which we are surrounded. The Lord gives to them seed-time and harvest, summer and winter, and pours the rich blessings of heaven into their laps; He gives them mechanical talent and ingenuity; He inspires them with a knowledge of the arts and sciences; He has been pouring upon them the rich blessings of intelligence and of plenty for ages, but they do not acknowledge His hand. Men boast of their own intelligence, of their own wisdom, of their own power, might and understanding—with but few exceptions. They feel a good deal like the king of Babylon did when in his pride he rose up and said: "Is not this great Babylon that I have built? Have I not done these things by my wisdom, by my intelligence, by my power and might?"

With us it is different. We are indebted to God for the first rays of light and intelligence that ever beamed upon us. Who among us knew the first principles of the Gospel of Christ until we heard them from the Elders of Israel? There is not a man among us that did; there is not a man in existence to-day that knows them, only as they have been communicated to him from God.

*From an address delivered in the Bowery, Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A., at General Conference, on October 7th, 1865.

Who told us that it was right to be baptized in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins? Who taught us it was right to receive the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands? Who taught us that it was right that there should be an authority given by God to man, to enable him to officiate legally in His name, and that everything in the shape of religion upon the earth was spurious and not of Him? It was communicated to Joseph Smith by the opening of the heavens, by the ministering of holy angels, and by the voice of God. Until that voice was heard, until these communications were made known, the inhabitants of the world were wrapped in ignorance; they knew nothing about God or the principles of eternity, nor the way to save themselves nor anybody else.

We have nothing to boast of in this particular. I do not speak of these things by way of boasting, but I speak of them to acknowledge the hand and mercy of God towards us as a people. What would a man give in exchange for his soul? We are told that a man will give all he hath for his life; what will he give then, in exchange for his soul; or has he anything to barter for it?

THE VALUE OF TRUE KNOWLEDGE

What is it that hath loosed us from the shackles of ignorance, error, superstition and folly with which we were bound? It is the light of heaven, the revelations of God, the ministrations of the holy Priesthood that has imparted to us intelligence in relation to these things; without this it is impossible that we could follow anything in relation to them. Who is there in the world that understands anything of God, or of His will? They cannot be found; they know nothing of Him. It would be needless to talk about the folly of their priests, and their ideas and notions in relation to these matters. . . . When I was among them I was a teacher, and what did I know? Simply nothing. I knew nothing of God, of the principles of eternal truth and life, and I could not find anybody anywhere that knew any more than I did.

I am indebted to "Mormonism," to the light of truth, to the revelations of God, to the administrations of the holy Priesthood, for all the knowledge, light and intelligence that I may possess in relation to these matters; and this is the case with all of us; we were all unacquainted with God, with the holy Priesthood, and with the way to obtain eternal life; and the same ignorance that beclouded our minds, previous to the opening of the heavens to Joseph Smith, and to the coming forth of the fulness of the Gospel through him, beclouds the rest of the world at the present time. They know not where they are going to, nor where they came from. I used to ask myself sometimes questions like the following: Who am I? Where did I come from? What am I doing here? What is the object of my existence? Who organized the world, and for what purpose was it organized? Could I answer

them? No; and nobody else could answer them for me; for they knew nothing about these things—neither priest, nor philosopher, nor statesman, nor any man that I could associate with, could unravel these questions; they could not tell me the whys and the wherefores in relation to some of these simple things.

The Gospel, we are told in one place, is “the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus,” and “it hath made us free from the law of sin and death.” We are told in another place that it is “good news and glad tidings;” but, if we comprehend it correctly, the Gospel holds the keys, through the Priesthood, of the mysteries of God; the Gospel “brings life and immortality to light;” and wherever it exists, in whatsoever bosom it dwells, whoever has engaged in the propagation of the Gospel, has a knowledge of life and immortality; it is that which unveils the heavens, and without it men are ignorant in relation to the future, and of that salvation of which they talk so much.

THE GOSPEL A BASIS OF TRUE UNDERSTANDING

The Gospel places men in communication with the Lord, so that they can understand something of God, and something of His law; and without the Gospel they cannot understand anything about Him; and hence some will think one thing about Him and some another. Whoever has possessed the Gospel, whether in former or in latter times, it has brought life and “immortality to light,” to them; it shows men who they are and what they are; it shows them something about God; and it was said in former times that, this is life eternal, to know God, and Jesus Christ whom He hath sent. Without the Gospel it would be impossible for men to have any knowledge of God, or of Jesus Christ, whom He hath sent. Hence, when Jesus asked the question of His disciples: “Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?” they answered Him: “Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets,” risen from the dead. “But whom say ye that I am?” Peter answered: “Thou art the Son of the living God.” Jesus said unto him: “Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed this unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

How did Peter know that He was the Christ? He knew it by revelation; he had the Gospel, and the Gospel brings life and “immortality to light,” and reveals unto the human family the existence of a God, and their relation to Him. We are indebted to God for light, for the intelligence we enjoy, for the knowledge of the Gospel that is placed within our reach.

God is desirous of benefiting us, and for this reason He has revealed unto us His will; for this reason He has opened the heavens

and communicated with us. God is desirous of establishing His law, His authority, His kingdom, His dominion, among men. He is desirous to be obeyed by the human family, and to have them submit to His teachings, to His guidance, and to His direction. He is desirous of establishing correct principles among mankind that will do them good, that will bless them, that will exalt them, that will prepare them to fulfil their destiny upon the earth; and the first step that He has taken is to impart unto them, through obedience to the principles of the Gospel of Christ, the Holy Ghost, and only through that can they comprehend God or His laws. "Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God"; and "except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

The Lord is trying to teach us, if He can, and we are trying to teach each other, if we can; so that we may be elevated and exalted in the scale of intelligence, morality, virtue, honesty and truth, and with regard to anything and everything that tends to exalt and ennoble the human mind. That is what we are after, and what the Lord is desirous to make of us.

WE ARE TRULY THE CHILDREN OF GOD

We emanated from Him; we are His children, and not only His children temporally and spiritually, but we are united to Him by a covenant to serve Him; we have covenanted to serve Him in baptism, to keep His commandments, and to walk according to the laws of life.

The Lord is desirous to root out error from amongst us—from me, from you, from all of us; to tear away error, superstition, vice, vanity, folly, pride and evil of every kind; to show us the beauty of holiness, the excellency of truth; to show us every principle that is calculated to build us up, and bless us with life and health, and our posterity after us, worlds without end.

What does the Gospel show us? It shows us who our Father is; it shows us our relationship to Him, and to our earthly father; it shows us our duty toward our children, our duty toward our wives, and wives their duty toward their husbands; it enters into all the ramifications of human existence.

As God is our Father, and the Organizer of these bodies, and of this earth on which we live, He wants to teach us all, principles that will be calculated to exalt us and exalt the earth on which we live. If anybody has any fault to find with us in any part of the world, it is that we seek to fear God and work the works of righteousness; and if we cannot be swayed from the principles of truth by any power under heaven, our society is ignored. . . .

Husbands are taught to love their wives, and wives are taught to love their husbands, and children are taught to obey their parents; these are good principles. We have been taught to pay our tithing, that we might acknowledge to God that we are His

people, and that if He gave us all we asked, we might give one-tenth back to Him, and by that act acknowledge His hand. Does the Lord care about these things? He does not care about them so far as they benefit Him, but He does, so far as they develop perfection in the Saints of God, and show that they acknowledge His hand as the Author and the Giver of every blessing they enjoy. . . . It is sometimes hard for us to realize that we are in the hands of God, and that He controls, and manages and guides our affairs. This is the thing we wish to understand, and wish the people to understand—that our confidence is in Him. People talk sometimes about what they are going to do with the “Mormons,” and the rumour flies that we are going to be rooted out, destroyed, and overthrown. We shall, when God says so, and not before. The Lord knew in former times how to put a hook into the jaws of the enemies of Israel, and He knows just as well where to place it to-day. The nation in which we live, and all nations, are in the hands of God; and so are we, and our enemies cannot help themselves nor avert the destiny that awaits them. He will accomplish His purposes toward them and they cannot help it, and toward us and they cannot help it. Then we are all in the hands of God, like clay in the hands of the potter, to be moulded and trained and fashioned according to the designs of God and according to His will.

THE LORD'S GOVERNMENT REVEALED TO MAN

As it regards any of those outside influences, we need not fear in relation to them; we need not fear anything they can say and do, for they can do nothing but what God permits. . . . We are in the hands of God, and we are trying to do the thing God requires of us to do, and that is, to establish His kingdom and His laws—His government. Where do we get the laws of God from? We get them by revelation through the medium He has appointed; and if we keep these laws, the blessing of God will be with us, His Spirit will attend us, He will bless us in all our endeavours, and we shall bring to pass the great designs of the Almighty that have been spoken of by the holy prophets. It is for us keep the commandments of God, whether they refer to temporal or to spiritual things; whether they relate to this world or to the world to come. We should seek to know God and cleave unto Him, carry out all His purposes, and He will lead us in the paths of life.

I am glad that the Spirit of the Lord rests upon the President of the Church and the people at this conference. We are here to talk about these things, to preach and sing and pray and commune with one another and with the Lord, and to try to get full of the Spirit of Light, that we may go from this conference and communicate it to others. May God help us to do His will and keep His commandments, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

RELIEF SOCIETY

THE LESSONS FOR 1930

IN THE preparation of lessons it is impossible to please everyone. Individual preference and intelligence differ as much as do individual faces and forms. In answer to the Questionnaire recently sent out, a very small number wished to discontinue entirely the literary lessons, so that they might have more time for sewing; while one Relief Society President gave a long argument in favour of studying Bernard Shaw and H. G. Wells instead of Church literature. The attempt to suit the majority in their desire has honestly been made, basing all work on the sure foundation of interesting growth for the members who study and are in harmony with our progressive program.

The aim of those who have prepared the Relief Society lessons for this year has been to adhere strictly to the outline of study prepared by the General Board of the Relief Society, and as near to the subject matter as is consistent with the somewhat differing conditions in the mission field. All European Mission Relief Societies this year are studying the same lessons: Over five thousand women in the ten European Missions studying the same lessons, making similar attempts for human betterment! Does not the thought give you a thrill of determination and desire to be in harmony with this great Sisterhood? You will surely give your best efforts this year toward making yourself a better, wiser woman than you have ever been before; and of making more vigorous attempts to help your neighbours and friends to understand and to *live* the Truth? Those members who desire only to sew and have someone read or amuse them are out of harmony with the high aims of the Relief Society. We grow only as we study and make effort. Shall we not *all* pull together this year—our great Centennial Year—for only in unity is there strength!

THE OUTLINE OF LESSONS is the same as that used by the General Relief Society:

First lesson night: Theology and Testimony.

Second „ „ Work and Business.

Third „ „ Health and Home.

Fourth „ „ Literature.

Fifth „ „ Social Program (when a fifth lesson night occurs).

Theology and Testimony is our most important lesson. Our greatest need is spiritual growth: Therefore our theology lessons receive first place. Brother Weston N. Nordgren is assisting in the preparation of the Book of Mormon lessons which will deal with the external and internal evidences of the Book's divine origin. These lessons are a fitting and interesting climax to our two year's study of the contents and story of the Book. An

opportunity for brief testimony bearing is advised as a part of this first lesson in the month.

The Work and Business lesson night is self-explanatory. You are urged to encourage Branch Teaching; put some of your best members in charge of this activity. At this meeting teachers' reports are to be given and all business transacted.

The Health and Home Lessons are also self-explanatory. Lessons on human nutrition are to be given, paying more attention to the practical application of the truths learned in the Word of Wisdom lessons studied last year. Menus and recipes and suggestions for daily use will be given; other subjects dealing with home problems will also be made a part of this series.

The Literature study of the year will deal with the story of the founding and early history of the Church and the part taken by women in this momentous achievement. It is a thrilling story, stranger than fiction at times and withal extremely faith-promoting. Brother Alvin G. Pack has prepared these lessons and they will prove as interesting as they are instructive.

The Summer Program this year is to be somewhat different. During the months of July and August the regular lessons will be discontinued and each meeting will be an Open Meeting with the possibility of occasional "outings." Every meeting may be a sewing meeting, if desired, that the sisters may make intensive preparation for their Fall Sale of Work. Interesting programs will be prepared; but if preferred, special individual programs may be given as your own neighbourhood may need. Consult your Mission President as to your proposed plans. The meetings are not to be discontinued; they are to be somewhat more social in nature. Then the lessons will be resumed with vigour in September.

The Aim of the Centennial Year: For each member to make an extra special attempt to bring the light of truth to one new member of the Society. The lessons are most interesting; you will enjoy them; you may safely invite your friends; you will find in your attendance and study a greater joy and interest than you have ever known before. This may be safely promised for every year of study and preparation.

Will you each one join the ranks to obtain "One New Member for the Relief Society?" The Lord will bless your efforts and a sweet joy will be your rich reward.

A RELIEF SOCIETY SLOGAN

The word "slogan" is derived from two Gaelic words, *sluagh*, meaning "army," and *gairm*, "a call," or "yell," and was first used by the Highland clans as a battle or rallying-cry. The word in common English usage to-day has taken the latter meaning, and is used to denote a call for action with some definite purpose.

(Continued on page 9)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1930

EDITORIAL

HE HAS SPOKEN; HE SPEAKS!

THE YEAR 1930 is the hundredth year since the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It will be a year of jubilee, of rejoicing and thanksgiving. Throughout the year, in words of tongue and pen, from pulpit and on printed page, our thoughts will be directed and directed again to the earth-encompassing events of a century ago, and to the resulting, marvelous developments.

We shall bow in grateful acknowledgement before our Father in Heaven, who has given us of His fulness of truth, and has made His humble people like unto the mighty.

We shall celebrate the restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ—that is, the restatement of the complete code of eternal laws and principles, cleansed and freed from human dross, which have power, if used aright, to bring to humankind health, strength and happiness, economic and social order, and spiritual peace. We shall celebrate the rediscovery of the only elixir of life—of eternal life.

We shall rejoice in the reconferring upon man of the Priesthood of God, the authority to act for Him, by which the powers of heaven may be caused to enliven human acts. We shall give grateful recognition to the authoritative foundation, laid one hundred years ago, upon which the Church rests, and which makes the supporting element of the structure of the Church, from cornerstone to capstone, the divine right to speak and act in the name of the Lord. It is His Church, in which eternal truth must be used under His authority. On the basis of such living and ever-present authority the Church has made a century of wonderful history.

We shall praise the Lord, above all else, because, in a day, when men, having invented a silent heaven, taught that the voice of God could no longer be heard, that the written words were the end of heavenly knowledge, that the living oracle had been replaced by books—that in such a dismal day of man's remoteness from his Maker, the Lord of Heaven reaffirmed His eternal right and power, and showed Himself to man, His child, and spoke to him and instructed him. We shall thrill again in the supreme message of the Restoration to this generation and to all that follow, that the voice of God, vibrant and distinct, has been, is and will be heard by man; that Jehovah who spoke of

old, continues to speak to His children. We shall cry "with a loud voice" in our gladness: "God has spoken, He has spoken! Yea, He speaks! He speaks!"—W.

RELIEF SOCIETY

(Concluded from page 7)

Many of the members of the Relief Society have suggested that it would be a benefit to have and use a "slogan" as a stimulus to a better understanding of our work during the coming year.

With a definite request coming from each of the European Missions, the Presidents of the Relief Societies at the last conference adopted a slogan to be used by every Society throughout all the European Missions:

"WE STAND FOR A GREATER APPRECIATION OF OUR CENTENNIAL YEAR BY LOOKING FOR OTHERS' VIRTUES."

The slogan should be introduced at each meeting by some member, previously assigned, giving a five-minute talk emphasizing one of its many phases, and then all members standing and repeating it in concert.

The hope of the leaders is that the slogan shall be operative in the lives of those who speak it. Otherwise, it is but a group of meaningless words and empty phrases. We all must each year *live* our slogan, translate its words into daily action in our lives, or it may become a condemnation upon us. Where used, it will prove a blessing.

For instance, in any meeting, in a social gathering or even in our homes, if anyone should make an unkind remark about a neighbour or friend, or show a tendency to gossip (a hateful degrading, pastime), anyone may with profit suggest: "Sisters, let us repeat the Relief Society Slogan, please." If an individual yields to the temptation to voice an unkind thought about anyone, if she will but pause long enough to repeat our slogan she will be blessed that her thoughts and words may take another turn.

Our goal: We cannot all be Saints at once; some of us not in months or years of constant striving. But we may all approach that goal if we will speak only good about our associates. Soon will come the power to think only good, uplifting thoughts. Then, and then only, may we approach the ideal our name implies: Latter-day Saints.

Shall we all make a contract with each other? You look for my virtues; I shall look for yours: Each and all striving together this year. Only when individuals live at peace with each other, may

Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven.

Agreed? Then we shall succeed.

LESSON BOOKLET

A *Relief Society Manual* is being prepared which will contain all the lessons and will be ready for use in the near future. You will take pride in having a useful, helpful little manual of study, not only for this year's work, but for future reference. It will not be expensive and will be worth to you and your families many times its price. Save your pennies and be prepared for its advent.

THE JANUARY LESSONS

The lesson booklet will probably not come to you in time for the January lessons. Therefore, use the time to review some of last year's lessons which you may wish to study more thoroughly. Reviews are always helpful. It is also good to use individuality and strengthen weak places in our past year's program.

Success to you all, dear Sisters!

TEACHER TOPICS

One of the most characteristic activities of the Relief Society, and one that has been operative since its very inception, is that of District or Neighbourhood teaching. From the first meetings "teachers" or "friendly visitors" were appointed, whose duty it was to visit all families in their appointed districts, and make reports to the presiding officers as to the general conditions of the members, as also any case of need that had been noted. This practice has been followed in general in all Relief Societies since that time.

The European Missions are attempting a greater activity in that regard during this, our Centennial Year. Each Society is requested to appoint a chairman for Neighbourhood visiting, and she may ask a member to accompany her on her visits. Or the President of each Society may appoint two regular "teachers" for each district or part of her Branch. These visits should be made at least once each month, and oftener if needed.

That some special message may be taken for each visit, a "Teacher Topic" will be assigned each month. The "teachers" should be conversant with this topic, and it should form the basis of conversation during the call or visit.

L. D. W.

THE JANUARY TOPIC

"By their fruits ye shall know them."

Central thought or aim:

All of the nourishment and guidance needed in order to have good minds and bodies are found in the true Gospel—"Mormonism."

(a) Where theme is found and by whom spoken.

(See Matthew, chapter 7, verse 20).

(b) The volumes of scripture used in the Church are sources of enlightenment for a degree of mental and spiritual improvement that can be found in no other place in the world.

1. They make plain the word of God to everyone.
2. They teach us the way of life.
3. They teach us why we are here on earth.
4. They teach us how to take care of our bodies.

(Word of Wisdom)

(c) Then by putting into practice the rules of conduct that are contained in the Church works we show to the world that the teachings of the Latter-day Saints bring forth the best "fruits" known to mankind, namely: Better men and women.

JOSEPHINE B. LUND

SUNDAY SCHOOL

CONCERT RECITATION FOR JANUARY, 1930.

"AND I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." Revelation 14: 6.

NOTE TO THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENTS

We regret that the lessons for the Book of Mormon classes—evidences of the authenticity thereof—for January, are not available at this time for publication in this month's guide. Such being the case, lessons for both January and February will appear in the guide for February. In the meantime, a series of lessons will be otherwise provided.

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT. Course: *Old Testament "A."*

January 5. Lesson 1. Introduction—The Old Testament. Texts: Sunday School Lessons, No. 1; Talmage's *Articles of Faith*, Lecture 13. Lesson 1, 2, and 3, Outlines in Religious Education, Old Testament Dispensation—(Seminary Text Book). Objective: To build up an interest in the Bible, and to bring about an appreciation of the importance of Bible study.

January 12. Lesson 2. Introduction Continued—The Beginnings. Texts: Sunday School Lessons, No. 2; The Book Of Genesis; "Genesis" in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*; the Book of Moses, Pearl of Great Price. Objective: Only through an understanding of what the Book of Genesis is will an appreciation of the Book come.

January 19. Lesson 3. Adam. Texts: Sunday School Lessons, No. 3; Genesis, Chapters 1, 2, 3; "Adam" in the *Encyclopædia*

Britannica; Talmage's *Articles of Faith*, Lecture 3. Objective: To show that in Adam's experience he met with the basic facts of earth life; viz: the fact of God, the fact of God's justice, the fact of a planned universe, the facts of sin and evil.

January 26. Lesson 4. Eve. Text: Sunday School Lessons, No. 4; Genesis Chapters 2, 3; "Eve" in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*; Talmage's *Articles of Faith*, Lecture 4; Talmage's *Jesus the Christ*, Chapter 3, pages 29-31; Book of Mormon, 2 Nephi, 2: 22-25. Objective: To teach that the Fall of Adam and Eve was ordained and designed to help man to gain joy and happiness in the world and eternal life hereafter.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT Course: *Primary*.

January 5. Lesson 48. For a Time Israel Loves the Lord. (A Picture Lesson). Text: Sunday School Lessons, No. 48. Objective: Love for the Lord and the things of the Lord bring joy and spiritual strength.

January 12. Lesson 49. Elijah and King Ahab. Texts: Sunday School Lessons, No. 49; 1 Kings 16: 29-32; 17: 18. Objective: Those who love and trust the Lord are entitled to the blessings of heaven.

January 19. Lesson 50. Elijah and the Widow. Texts: Sunday School Lessons, No. 50; 1 Kings 17: 8-16. Objective: Those who love and trust the Lord are entitled to the blessings of heaven.

January 26. Lesson 51. Elijah and the Widow's Son. Texts: Sunday School Lessons, No. 51; 1 Kings. Objective: Those who love and trust the Lord are entitled to the blessings of heaven.

—From the *Juvenile Instructor*

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

SLOGAN: "During this Centennial Year, We Stand for the Fullest Development of Self through Personal Purity and Obedience to all other Latter-day Saint Ideals."

SUBJECTS FOR SLOGAN TALKS

First Night. "Fullest Development of Self." Indicate, in a three minute talk, what it means to develop all of one's capabilities.

Second Night. "Fullest Development of Self." Show, by your own experience if possible, the benefit of taking care of and using your talents.

Third Night. "Fullest Development of Self." Point out some of the provisions made for the development of self, mentally, in the Mutual Improvement work.

Fourth Night. "Fullest Development of Self." Show how observance of the Word of Wisdom is conducive to a full development of self.

Fifth Night. "Fullest Development of Self." Briefly discuss the aspects of self-development that have been brought out in the M. I. A. work within your knowledge.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMS.

First Night. Opening exercises. Introduction to the slogan. Have the female members of the M. I. A. provide one or two musical numbers.

Second Night. Opening Exercises. Introduction to the slogan. Have the male members of the M. I. A. provide one or two numbers.

Third Night. Opening Exercises. Introduction to the slogan. Let someone tell a short story from real life, with a lesson in it.

Fourth Night. Opening exercises. Introduction to the slogan. For the first Open Night in the new year we must start off with real enthusiasm, and then keep it up throughout the year. Invite everyone in your branch to come and partake of a real "live" evening of clean activity, good fellowship and good feeling. The following games are being suggested with the idea of giving everyone a chance to get in and start the 1930 season off with a jolly round of spirited fun. Here we are, now let us all get in and have the time of our lives!

Bottle Fortunes: Players sit or stand in a circle. One person in the center is "It" and has a bottle (a milk or mineral water bottle will do). "It" spins the bottle and while it is spinning asks some questions, such as: "Who earns most?" "Who is the smartest person in this room?" "Who in the room has the biggest ears," etc. The player toward whom the neck of the bottle points becomes "It," and in turn asks other questions. (Avoid personal questions).

Dumb Crambo: Formation—The players are divided into two groups, one of which leaves the room. The remaining group selects some verb (such as *sing*), to be guessed by the other group. The group outside is then told a word that rhymes with the chosen word (such as *spring*), whereupon they decide on a word which they think might be the right one, enter the room and act it out without speaking a single word. If the inside group sees that the correct word has been guessed, they clap. If not, they hiss; when the word has been correctly guessed the sides change places.

In between these games, have a special feature, such as a recitation, a duet or a solo; and then close the evening's festivities with a good Latter-day Saint hymn, and a hearty round of handshakes for all—not missing a single one. For refreshments, have some bowls or baskets of apples, oranges, raisins, and raw carrots (cut up), from which those attending may draw as they so desire. If any additional modes of entertainment can be thought of, they may be used—always remembering, however, that Mutual

workers are never boisterous, nor do they believe in holding their socials until a late hour.

Fifth Night. Opening exercises. Introduction to the slogan. Have the members of the presidency—together, if possible—provide one or two numbers.

—Games from “Handy” Loose-leaf Manual

LESSONS. Text: *A Gospel Century.*

First Night. Chapter 11. The Organization of the Church. Objective: To show that the Church was instituted by God and not by man.

Second Night. Chapter 12. The Blood of the Martyrs. Objective: To point out that the Martyrdom should not be made light of, for it was a sign of faith and love.

Third Night. Chapter 13. The Great Migration. Objective: To show that nothing can deter the honest-in-heart from achieving their goal or desire.

Fourth Night. Open Night.

Fifth Night. Inasmuch as “fifth nights” come so seldom, we suggest that the following program be presented, as an appreciation for the good work done in the past, and to give impetus to the intense activity that is to follow.

PROGRAM

Opening Song: “Catch The Sunshine.” Prayer. Second song: “Come All Ye Sons Of God.”

Arrange for a special number to be presented at this juncture, along with proper words of welcome, opening remarks, and so on, by the presiding officer. Then let the skit: “The Awakening,” which will be sent to every M. I. A. organization immediately after the first of the year, be presented; having previously assigned the character parts therein to your Mutual Improvement workers.

The plot is sincere, but simple; and the characterizations are such as will be easily understood by those taking part; so when the skit is sent to you during the first week in January, do not be afraid to let anyone in your group take up the roles in question. Closing Song: “Now Let Us Rejoice.” Prayer.

Good luck to you. If we can be of any service to you, let us know.

WESLEY D. AMOTT

“LET your hearts be comforted; for all things shall work together for good to them that walk uprightly, and to the sanctification of the Church. For I will raise up unto myself a pure people, that will serve me in righteousness; and all that call upon the name of the Lord, and keep his commandments, shall be saved.”—DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS, 100: 15, 16, 17.

LIVING FAITH

Deseret, Utah,
December 9th, 1929.

PRESIDENT JOHN A. WIDTSOE,

Dear Brother :

Just a few lines to let you know that I am receiving and reading the *Star* yet; it comes regularly every week and I am just as anxious to read it now as when my father took it nearly eighty years ago in Birmingham. I was ten years old then, and I used to read the *Star* then and I read it now from end to end; I get many good instructions from it. I can read it yet without glasses, and I passed my eighty-sixth birthday last Wednesday, the 4th of this month. I can also do considerable work yet; my health is very good and I have only missed one Sacrament meeting this year. I am always on hand to help in the ward and to act as block teacher.

I have been a member of our Church for seventy-six years, and have never seen anything yet to turn me away or weaken my faith. I know the Gospel is true and I know Joseph Smith was and is a true prophet of God. I have known and spoken with and shaken hands with each of the Prophet Joseph's successors, and I know that they were and are true prophets of the living God. I feel the Spirit of God burn in my soul when I bear testimony to it. I pray God to bless you and your fellow-labourers in the work of the Lord.

Your brother in the Gospel,
SAMUEL W. WESTERN

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Branch Conference: Of the Manchester Branch, Manchester District, held on December 15th. "British Song Writers of Zion," was the theme presented. Members colourfully portrayed the lives of authors and the circumstances which brought about the composition of our famous Latter-day Saint hymns. Missionaries who attended were President Paul A. Peterson, Elders Elmout H. Crawford, T. Bruce Jenkins and Howard Armstrong.

Doings in the Districts: *Hull*—A special Christmas program given by the Primary characterized the Sale of Work and Christmas Social, sponsored by the Grimsby Branch Relief Society on Friday, December 20th.

Manchester—Members of the Manchester District enjoyed a social given by the Oldham Branch Sunday School on Saturday, December 14th. Comic readings, songs and games were features of the evening.

On December 10th, a social was given in the Hyde Branch. An interesting program was enjoyed by all.

ARISE AND SHINE

BEHOLD what God has done for you,
 And tremble should you prove untrue!
 He gave you talents—and a soul
 With much that's noble to control;
 With much that's given to impart
 Instruction to the human heart;
 And to propel the expanding mind,
 Which truth and wisdom yearn to find!
 Are those not talents, all untold?
 That "'neath a bushel" none must hold!
 You know all this—I need not tell
 What you already know so well;
 Then pardon, if I take my pen
 To brighten up your mental ken.
 I say in friendship: "Brother mine,
 Arise, and make your mark in time;
 That in the glorious future, you
 May stand among the pure and true—
 Whose brilliant minds and mighty souls
 Hereafter shall this globe control!
 And let us strive that you and I
 In that bright galaxy may vie;
 So now my friendly rhyme I end,
 Subscribing as your truthful friend,

HANNAH T. KING

(From *Mentorian*, addressed to President Joseph F. Smith, published in the *Millennial Star* of November 12th, 1877).

DEATH

KERSHAW—Frank Kershaw, infant son of Brother and Sister Albert Kershaw, of the Oldham Branch, Manchester District, passed away on December 5th, 1929. Interment was in the Half Acre Cemetary. Elder Elmout H. Crawford dedicated the grave.

BRITISH MISSION ADDRESS: A. WILLIAM LUND, PRESIDENT, 23 BOOTH STREET, HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM

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